

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A general purpose engine comprising:

a crankcase comprising a case main body as a principal part thereof;

a cylinder block with which the case main body is integrally formed;

a crankshaft having a plurality of crank webs;

bearings;

a bearing support member mounted on the case main body, the crankshaft being rotatably supported via the bearings in the bearing support member and the case main body;

a valve operating mechanism; and

a drive transmission wheel housed within the crankcase so as to transmit rotational power to the valve operating mechanism, the drive transmission wheel being fixedly provided on the crankshaft so as to be outside the crank web that, among the crank webs, is at one end in the axial direction;

wherein the crankcase comprises the case main body and a cover secured to the case main body; [[and]]

wherein the bearing support member, which is formed with a plurality of through holes and is disposed between the drive transmission wheel and the crank web that is at one end in the axial direction, is formed into a shape that allows oil held within the crankcase to flow between opposite sides of the bearing support member through the through holes and is mounted on the case main body.

wherein the bearing support member is formed from an annular support portion for supporting one of the bearings and a mounting portion integrally projecting radially outward from the support portion and having circumferentially spaced projecting portions.

2. (New) The general purpose engine according to claim 1, wherein the mounting portion comprises said plurality of through holes.

3. (New) The general purpose engine according to claim 1, wherein the bearing support member is mounted on the case main body at said circumferentially spaced projecting portions.

4. (New) The general purpose engine according to claim 3, wherein the mounting portion is formed so that sections between the circumferentially spaced projecting portions are indented toward the support portion.

5. (New) The general purpose engine according to claim 1, wherein the bearing support member is formed into a webbed shape.